

A. P. COOKE MEMORIAL CANCER LABORATORY
FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE
Lakeland, Florida, 33802

AREA CODE 813
688-3755

Boris Th. Sokoloff, M. D., Ph. D., Director

June 8, 1970

Mr. James C. Bowling
Vice President & Asst. to the Chairman
Philip Morris Inc.
100 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Bowling:

Mr. Harold Johnson forwarded to me your letter of May 21st with the enclosed notice from the New York Times.

May I take this opportunity to tell you a few words about my opinion on cigarette smoking and cancer of the lung. I am one of a few carcinologists who disagree with the conclusions of the American Cancer Society and the NCI on this problem.

In my article published in the cancer journal GROWTH, which is herewith enclosed, I expressed some doubts about the scientific reliability of their statistical work.

With the discovery of antibacterial antibiotics, the bacterial infections were replaced by viral pneumonia and similar conditions. The number of viral infections in this country are enormous and the post-effects often quite grave. There is voluminous evidence that many viruses are carcinogenic. The obvious defect of the American Cancer Society's statistical survey was that they did not record properly the case histories of patients affected with cancer of the lung. They did not record the frequency of their viral infections, specifically of the lungs. I would not be surprised that in almost every case of cancer of the lung, of smoker and non-smoker, the patient was affected by serious viral infections previous to developing adenocarcinoma or other malignant formations.

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To: Mr. James C. Bowling

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There is another question of importance, that of a metabolite serotonin which under stress can cause cancer of the lung (see my book CARCINOID AND SEROTONIN, Springer-Verlag Publishers, 1969).

May I add that I blame Dr. C. C. Little for his absence of vision in rebuttal of the ACS's conclusions.

Sincerely yours,

Boris Sokoloff

Boris Sokoloff, M.D., Ph.D.

BS/rp
Enc.

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